

### REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 are currently pending. Claims 1-4, 7, 9, and 11-18 have been amended; and Claim 19 has been added by the present amendment. The changes and additions to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification.

In the outstanding Office Action, Figures 1 and 2 were objected to as not containing an illustration such as "Prior Art"; Claims 3 and 11-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter; Claims 1-18 were rejected on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,782,387; and Claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,341,287 to Sziklai et al. (hereinafter "the '287 patent").

Applicants respectfully submit that the objection to Figures 1 and 2 is rendered moot by the present amendment to the drawings. Figures 1 and 2 have been amended to include the legend "Background Art." Accordingly, the objection to the drawings is believed to have been overcome.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, are rendered moot by the present amendment to those claims. Claims 3 and 13 have been amended to no longer recite the phrase "that concerns." Moreover, Claims 11-18 have been amended to recite computer code devices. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 3 and 11-18 are clear and definite.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 101 is rendered moot by the present amendment to the claims. For example, Claim 1 has been amended to be directed to an integrated document management system for managing access

to documents distributed over a computer network. Further, Claim 1 recites a plurality of connecting parts configured to interface between a user interface part and a plurality of data processing parts, the connecting parts configured to implement common document management operations upon a plurality of databases. Applicants respectfully submit that implementing common document management operations upon a plurality of databases and managing access to documents distributed over a computer network is a useful, concrete, and tangible result.

Applicants respectfully submit that the double patenting rejection of Claims 1-18 is rendered moot by the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to an integrated document management system for managing access to documents distributed over a computer network, comprising: (1) a plurality of the connecting parts configured to interface between a user interface part and a plurality of data processing parts, and the connecting parts configured to implement common document management operations upon a plurality of databases. Further, amended Claim 1 clarifies that each connecting part includes (1) an interface that corresponds to a respective one of the plurality of databases, and (2) a common interface that corresponds to the user interface part. The changes to Claim 1 are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.<sup>1</sup>

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 1 as anticipated by the '287 patent is rendered moot by the present amendment to Claim 1.

The '287 patent is directed to an integrated system for managing changes in regulatory and non-regulatory requirements for business activities at an industrial or commercial facility. In particular, the '287 patent discloses a system that includes one or more databases that contain information on operations and requirements concerning an

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<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., Figures 3-5 and the discussion related thereto in the specification.

activity or area of business, and that the system receives information on regulatory and non-regulatory changes that affect operations of the business, and converts these changes into changes in data entry forms, data processing analysis procedures, and presentation of data processing analysis results, without requiring the services of one or more programmers.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that the '287 patent fails to disclose a plurality of connecting parts configured to interface between a user interface part and a plurality of data processing parts, wherein each connecting part includes (1) an interface that corresponds to a respective one of the plurality of databases, and (2) a common interface that corresponds to the user interface part, as recited in amended Claim 1. Rather, the '287 patent merely discloses a plurality of databases and a user management unit that manages changes to the data contained in the plurality of databases. However, Applicants respectfully submit that the '287 patent fails to disclose a plurality of connecting parts, wherein each connecting part includes two elements: an interface that corresponds to a respective database, and a common interface that corresponds to a user interface part. In this regard, Applicants note that the sections recited in the outstanding Office Action ('287 patent, columns 11 and 15) merely refer to a standard interface system positioned on top of one or more databases. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that amended Claim 1 (and dependent Claims 2-8) patentably define over the '287 patent.

Independent Claims 9 and 11 recite limitations analogous to the limitations recited in Claim 1. Moreover, Claims 9 and 11 have been amended in a manner analogous to the amendments to Claim 1. Accordingly, for reasons analogous to the reasons stated above for the patentability of Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 9 and 11 (and all associated dependent claims) are rendered moot by the present amendment to the independent claims.

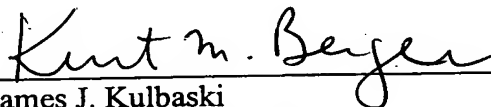
The present amendment also sets forth new Claim 19 for examination on the merits. New Claim 19, which depends from Claim 1, clarifies that each connecting part comprises an instruction interpreting part and an instruction translating part that are configured based on each corresponding database. Claim 19 is supported by the originally filed specification and does not add new matter.<sup>2</sup>

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 9, and 11 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over the '287 patent.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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<sup>2</sup> See, e.g., Figure 5 and the discussion related thereto in the specification.